England's Path

TO

Wealth and Honour,

IN A

DIALOGUE

Between an

ENGLISH-MAN

AND A

DUTCH-MAN.

LUKE V. 4.

Launch out into the deep, and let down your Nets for a draught.

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Reprinted, in the Year, 1707.

The Most Noble

THOMAS Duke of LEEDS,

Marquiss of CARMARTHEN,

Earl of DANBY,

Viscount LATIMER,

Baron Osborn of KIVETON;

AND

KNIGHT *of the most Noble*

Order *of the* GARTER,

GOVERNOUR *of the Royal*

Fishery *of* ENGLAND.

May it please your Grace,

NO Person having spent more Money and Pains than Your *Grace*, to Re-establish the *Fishery* of *England*; I presume to Dedicate to you the following *Dialogue*: Not that I have the

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vanity to think this my poor Mite can make any Addition to your *Grace's* Great Treasure of Knowledge: But as believing the Fact therein contain'd, so true, it might safely appear before the Best of Judges.

With all Respect I am,

Your Grace's

most Humble

most Faithful

most Obliged

and most Obedient Servant.

James Puckle.

PREFACE.

THE *Highlands of* Scotland, Wales, Biscay, Switzerland, *and other Countries (not worth conquering) continue still in Possession of their Aborigines: Whereas,* England *being a Country (as was said of the Tree of Paradice) good for Food, pleasant to the Eyes, and to be desired, hath been possess'd by Five several Nations, and coveted by many more.*

Yet view its Coasts, they'll appear Bold, and but thinly Inhabited, and the Civil Wars of our Island having occasioned the demolishing of its strong Holds, in case of Attack, how can we be defended against Foreign powerful Enemies, but by a Naval Power?

Allowing us Masters of more Tall ships than any of our Neighbours. What Security can a numerous Navy afford, if Mariners be wanting?

Whether England *wants Mariners best appears by our turning 'em o're from Ship to Ship, by our long, long Embargoes, and yet excessive Charge in Pressing, and by so many of our Ships being lost (during the late War) for want of their Complement.*

Nor can the Number of our Seamen be readily Encreast, without Establishing a Fishery. *For Men of War and Merchant-*

men spend many Marriners, and breed Few, the great and best Nursery for Seamen is the Fishery; *where each Dogger brings up (it may be) Six, Eight, or Ten, new Men every Year, and the Fishermens Business lying where our Ship's Danger lies, makes them know how the Sands shift, where the Rocks and Shelves are; Consequently most able Coasters and admirable Pilots.*

Besides by frequent riding out great Storms in small Busses and Doggers, Fishermen become so steeled and habituated to Danger, that in Tempests and Engagements they work Wonders; and the Fish lying upon our own Coasts, the Men we employ to catch them (though out of His Majesties Pay) will be ever at Hand, and so ready for Service, as to make our watchfullest Enemies despair of surprizing us.

Again, "*A due Care for our Poor, is* "*an Act of great Civil Prudence and Poli-*
"*tical Wisdom, for Poverty*
"*in it self is apt to Emascu-*
"*late the Minds of Men,*
"*or at least it makes Men*
"*tumultuous and unquiet;*
"*where there are very ma-*
"*ny Poor, the Rich cannot*
"*long or safely continue such; necessity ren-*
"*ders*

L. C. I. *Hale* in his Discourse touching Provision for the Poor.

" *ders Men of Phlegmatick and dull Na-*
" *tures, Stupid and Indisciplinable, and*
" *Men of more fiery or active Constitutions,*
" *Rapacious and Desperate.*

The Poors Rates of England (*besides Voluntary Charity*) *amounts to near a Million* per Annum; *by which its Evident what vast Numbers of Beggers and Idle Persons live upon the Publick without return of Labour for their Bread.*

Now Beggars Children (*if not destroy'd in the Womb, or at the Birth,*) *being bred up in Want and Laziness, become of unhealthful Bodies, and more then ordinary subject to many loathsome Diseases, whereof abundance die in their tender Age; and such as attain to riper Years, by idle Habits contracted in their Youths, are rendred for ever unapt and undisposed for Labour, and serve only to stock the Kingdom with Theives and Beggers. So that without a due Care for Relief of our Poor in a way of Industry, they'll daily Encrease.*

Suppose, to employ our Poor any one Manufacture be encouraged: It may perchance remove the present Trade of one City or County to another, and occasion such Complaints as the Button-Makers (*not long since*) *made against Cloth Buttons, yet leave*

the generality of our Poor destitute of a convenient Support & Provision.

Nay, could we at once Encourage every Manufacture in England, *encreasing our Manufactures and not our Food, would only lessen the Misery of our present Poor by sharing it amongst all the People of the Kingdom.*

The most effectual Expedient then to employ our Poor, is to Establish a Fishery; *which by affording them at once both Food & Employment, wou'd quickly turn the great Burthen of our Nation into an equal Benefit.*

Much more might be said to this Purpose; but at present I shall only add that within thirty Years past, our active Neighbours the French *have encreased their Navigation to a Proverb; given* Europe *much disquiet, and cost* England (*in particular*) *abundance of Blood and Treasure. But had not* Englishmen *been guilty of more than* Spanish *sloath in not putting forth their Hands to take that Rich blessing,* (*the* Fishery) *which Providence by placing upon our Coasts, courts us* (*as it were*) *to receive, all our Sovereigns* (*as well as Queen* Elizabeth,) *might have bounded the Numbers of the* French *Fleet, and been by the blessing of God*

Pacis Europæ Arbitri,
Maris Domini & Vindices.

A NEW DIALOGUE

Between an

ENGLISH-MAN

AND A

DUTCH-MAN.

Dutch-Man, GOOD *Morrow Friend, what art muſing on?*

Engliſh-Man, Conſidering the Extent of theſe your Dykes, I was thinking what exceſſive Charge and Pains *Holland* is yearly at to defend it ſelf againſt invading Waves: Whereas the Sea that encircles *England* (Barrier like) fenceth it againſt Surprize and Ravages, exempts us from the Charge and Terrour of Garriſons and Fortificati-ons, and (with our Floating Caſtles)

continues to us that quiet Liberty and Security the reſt of *Europe* more or leſs have loſt.

D. England *indeed is fenc'd in by the Sea, but (Money is the Sinews of War and) happier* Holland *hath a Main Ocean of Wealth to Defend it.*

E. The cold Winds (being moiſtened by the Vapours, or ſoftned by the warmth of the Seas motion before they reach our Iſland) are leſs fierce, and the Air is far more Mild and Temperate (if not more Healthy) than any part of the Continent under the ſame Climate; ſo that we have no neceſſity for *Grottoes* in Summer, or *Stoves* in Winter.

D. *In my Opinion, that Country is ſtill Happieſt that is ſtored with the Richeſt growths and products for Traffick and Commerce, and the Air ever beſt where moſt Money is ſtirring; for Poverty and Want will render People unhealthy in all Climates.*

E. England abounds with Mines, Rocks, Pits and Quarries of (*a*) Alablaſter, (*b*) Antimony, (*c*) Ardois, (*d*)

(*a*) *Darbyſhire, Nottinghamſhire, Staffordſhire.*
(*b*) *Darbyſhire,* (*c*) *Cornwall,* (*d*) *Cumberland*

Black

Blacklead, (e) Chalk, (f) Chriſtal, (g) Tobacco-pipe-Clay, (h) Coals of divers Sorts, (i) Copper, (k) Fullers-Earth, (l) Freeſtone, (m) Iron, (n) Lapis Calaminaris to make Braſs, (o) Loadſtones, (p) Lead, (q) Marble, (r) Milſtones, (s) Plaiſter (harder than that) of Paris, (t) Potters-Oar, (u) Slate, (w) Salt, (x) Steel, (y) Tinn, (z) Whetſtones, &c.

Upon its Coaſts are found (a) Amber, (b) Ambergriſe, (c) abundance of Cop-

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(e) *Suſſex*, (f) *Darbyſhire*, (g) *Dorſetſhire*, (h) *Carmarthenſhire*, *Cumberland*, *Durham*, *Lancaſhire*, *Leiceſterſhire*, *Northumberland*, *Shropſhire*, *Staffordſhire*, *Yorkſhire*, (i) *Cornwall*, *Cumberland*, *Darbyſhire*, *Staffordſhire*, *Yorkſhire*, (l) *Bedfordſhire*, *Surry*, (l) *Dorſetſhire*, (m) *Darbyſhire*, *Durham*, *Glouceſterſhire*, *Hampſhire*, *Shropſhire*, *Staffordſhire*, *Warwickſhire*, (n) *Somerſetſhire*, (o) *Devonſhire*, (p) *Cardigarſhire*, *Carmarthenſhire*, *Darbyſhire*, *Devonſhire*, *Durham*, *Staffordſhire*, *Yorkſhire*, (q) *Darbyſhire*, *Dorcetſhire*, (r) *Angleſee*, *Cheſhire*, *Darbyſhire*, *Flintſhire*, (s) *Nottinghamſhire*, (t) *Carmarthenſhire*, (u) *Cornwall*, (w) *Cheſhire*, *Cumberland*, *Worceſterſhire*, (x) *Glouceſterſhire*, (y) *Cornwall*, *Devonſhire*, (z) *Darbyſhire*.

(a) *Norfolk*, (b) *Cornwall*, (c) *Whi ſtable-ſhallow*,

perice Stone, (*d*) Jet, (*e*) Pearls, (*f*) fine Pebles, transparent like Diamonds; also Flint Varrack, *&c.* to make Glass: Besides (not to mention the Rich Commodities yearly Imported from its Fruitful Plantations, that are to it as so many Mines of Treasure,) *England* affords Plenty of Corn, Cattle, Fowl, Fruits Pulse, Leather, Wool, *&c.* Whereas, *Holland* produceth nothing but a few Hops, Madder, Butter and Cheese.

D. *The whole Product of your Island is nothing when compared to the* (g) Golden Mines *of our Provinces, which have yielded us more Treasure than the Mines of* Potosi, *or both* Indies *to* Spain.

E. The *Golden Mines* of your Provinces; Pray where do they lie?

D. *In Neptunes* Store-pond, *which the* English *call their Seas.*

E. Our Famous *Edgar* with a Navy of Four Hundred Sail, vindicated his Dominion on our adjacent Seas, and Records mention his Successor *Canutus* to have laid

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(*d*) *Norfolk,* (*e*) *Cumberland,* (*f*) *Cornwall, Glouceſterſhire.*

(g) So the *Dutch* in a Proclamation 1624, ſtiled the Fiſhing Trade.

that

that ancient Tribute called *Danegelt*, upon all (whether Strangers or *Denizons*) trading on our Coasts or Seas.

Egbert, *Althred* and *Ethelfred*, all stiled themselves Supream Lords and Governours of the Ocean, surrounding the *British* Shore.

King *John* (*h*) challenged the Honour (or rather) Duty of the Flag, universally paid us, not barely as a Civility, but as a Right (*debitâ Reverentiâ*) Acknowledging our Title and Dominion.

The Famous Record entituled *Pro hominibus Hollandiæ*, shews how Obsequious your Ancestors were, not only in acknowledging (*i*) *Edward* the First's Dominion on the Sea, but craving his Protection and Permission to Fish on the Coast of *England*: And had not the Sovereignty of the *British* Seas in fact been in the Crown of *England*, why did the (*k*) Earls of *Holland* petition *Edward* the Third (and the (*l*) *French* our *Henry* the Sixth) for leave to Fish therein? And

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(*h*) *Anno* 1200. (*i*) *Anno* 1295. (*k*) *Rot. Par.* 23. *Ed.* 1*st. numb.* 5. (*l*) *Rot Par.* 22. *Ed. IVth, numb.* 2.

why

why did your (*m*) Skippers uſe to purchaſe Licenſe from *Scarborough* Caſtle, before they preſumed to caſt a Net upon the *North* Coaſts of *England*? Wherefore did *Philip* the Second of *Spain*, (*n*) obtain Licenſe of Queen *Mary* for his Subjects to Fiſh upon the *North* Coaſts of *Ireland* for the Term of Twenty one Years, for which was yearly paid One thouſand Pounds into the *Exchequer* of *Ireland*, as by the Records appear?

D. *A Fig for your mouldy Records: I ſay the Sea is as free to Fiſh in as* ——

E. ---As the Roads of *Holland* are t Travel in, where both Natives and Foreigners are forced to pay paſſage *Ghelt*.

D. *Don't Interrupt me*, Sir; *I ſay, the Sea is as free to Fiſh in as the Air to Breath in; who doubts it, may read our Great* Hugo Grotius's Mare liberum.

E. Grotius in his *Sylvæ* upon the *Inauguration* of King *James* (before he was perverted by the Importunities of his Country Men,) ſpeaking his Thoughts freely ſay's,

——— *Tria Sceptra profundi*
In magnum coiere Ducem.

(*m*) Camden's *Brittania*, (*n*) 1552.

The Rights of the *Engliſh*, *Scotiſh* and *Iriſh* Seas, are united under one Scepter; neither is he ſatisfied with that bare Profeſſion:

Sume Animos a Rege tuo qui dat Jura Mari.

Take courage from the King that giveth Laws to the Seas.

And in the ſame Book, in the contemplation of ſo great a Power, he concludeth,

Finis hic eſt qui fine caret, &c.

This is an End beyond an End, a Bound that knows no Bounds, which even the Winds and Waves muſt ſubmit to.

And if you remember when King *James* obſerved your Encroachments, he enjoyned his Ambaſſadour Sir *Dudley Carleton* to Expoſtulate the matter with your States, as may be ſeen in Mr. Secretaries Letter, (o) wherein he tells them, "That unleſs they ſought leave from his "Majeſty, and acknowledged his Right,

(o) 21 *Dec.* 1618.

"as

" as other Princes had done, and did, it " might well come to pass, that they " who would needs bear all the World " before them by their *Mare Liberum*, " might soon endanger their having nei- " ther *Terram, nec Solum, nec Rempubli-* " *cam liberam*: So much did that Wise Prince disdain to be wrangled out of the Ancient Rights and Regalities inherently annexed to his Crown, by the subtle Arguments of Wit and Sophistry.

D. *Don't tell me of King* James, *I say, that the Sea is free for every Body, and defy you to shew the Contrary.*

E. Why then do the *Venetians* exercise Dominion in the *Adriatique*, and the *Tuscans* Lord it in the *Tyrrhene* Seas? How comes it to pass that all your Skippers pay Toll to *Denmark* for passing the *Sound*, and to *Swedeland* for sailing in the *Baltick*? Wherefore doth the Republick of *Genoa*, let to Farm the *Fishery* for *Teunies* in their Neighbouring Seas: And the Emperour of *Russia* compel all Fishermen (within his Seas) to pay him Tribute; How is't that the like is done by the Duke of *Medina Sidonia* in *Spain*, and by all the Princes of *Italy* bordering on the Seas? Nay, wherefore do the *Dutch* stile themselves

ſelves Lord's of the *Southern* Seas, and allow far leſs Liberty in *India* than they take upon the *Engliſh* Coaſts.

But to wave this Diſpute: Pray *Sir*, how many Labourers have you in your Golden Mines as you call'd 'em?

D. *Upon taking an Account of the ſeveral Trades and Employments, by which the* Dutch *ſubſiſted (in order to find which beſt deſerved the Protection and Encouragement of the Publick,) it appeared, that in* Anno 1668. *The Subjects of the States General were* (p) *Two millions, Four hundred and Fifty thouſand, of which (beſides thoſe employed in the Inland* Fiſhery,) *Four hundred and Fifty thouſand were then maintained by Fiſhing at Sea, and the Traffick depending thereon; ſince which time we have much encreaſed the Numbers of our Fiſhing Buſſes and Doggers, to the great Encouragement of our Navigation, and all Trades depending on the* Fiſhery.

E. Which are they?

D. *Anchorſmiths, Bakers, Ballaſtmen, Basket-makers, Blackſmiths, Brewers, Butchers, Carpenters, Caulkers, Clapboard-*

(p) Pol. Gron & Maxims Van Holl. *Page* 43.

ſplitters,

ſplitters, Compaſs-makers, Coopers, Duck-weavers, Hemp-dreſſers, Hook-makers, Hoop-ſlitters, Joyners, Line-makers, Mariners, Maſt-makers, Net-makers, Net-tanners, Plummers, Pully-makers, Pump-makers, Rope-makers, Sail-makers, Sawyers, Ship-chandlers, Ship-wrights, Tallow-chandlers, Thread and Twine-ſpinners, &c. to the no ſmall Profit of the Makers and Venders of all Materials, Tools and Utenſils belonging to thoſe Trades, and of all Tradeſmen that make or ſell Culinary Wares, Bedding, Cloathing, &c. for Mariners; to which may be added, Packers, Tollers, Dreſſers and Couchers, to carry, ſort, and make the Herring lawful Merchandize, alſo Porters, Carmen, &c. In a Word, you can hardly caſt an Eye, upon any ſort or condition of People, but profit by our Fiſhery, *and the Community moſt of all.*

E. Pray where, and at what times of the Year do you fiſh for Herrings?

D. *In the beginning of* June, *the Herring riſing about two Leagues off* Cranehead (*the outermoſt part of* Bratio-ſound,) *ſtay there about fourteen Days, thence go to* Farry *Iſlands,* (*ſeaven Leagues to the* Southward *of* Shetland,) *round which they remain one and twenty Days, thence to* Buffinneſs

finneſs (*about thirty Leagues to the* Southward *of* Farry *Iſland,*) *the Fiſhing place is called* Buffin-deeps, *and is twenty Leagues to the* Northward *of the* Frith, *where the Herring abide about fourteen Days, and in the Fiſhing ground under* Chivit-hills *and* Chivit-chace *about fourteen Days, thence we follow them to the* Dogger-bank, *where they ſtay about thirty ſeaven Days; about the beginning of* September, *they come into* Yarmouth *Seas, where they continue near ſeventy Days, from whence they fall to the* Southward, *followed by ſmall Fiſhermen, it being dangerous for Doggers.*

E. What quantities of Fiſh are yearly taken by the *Dutch*?

D. *About* (q) *Three hundred thouſand Laſts.*

E. This confirms Sir *Walter Rawleigh*'s Obſervations preſented to King *James*, (*r*) and ſhews that the Learned Sir *John Burroughs*, in his Sovereignty of the *Britiſh* Seas, upon good Grounds affirmed that the Fiſh yearly taken by Strangers upon our Coaſts, did amount to (*s*) above

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(q) L. v. Aitzma. Anno 1653.
(*r*) *Anno* 1633.
(*s*) *Page* 140.

Ten

Ten millions of pounds Sterling. But pray *Sir*, where have you vent for all your Fish?

D. *At* Artois, Brabant, Bremen, Cleveland, Cologne, Dantzig, Denmark, Elbin, Embden, Flanders, France, Frankford, Germany, Gulickland, Hamburgh, Henault, Holstein, Italy, Liefland, Lithuania, Lubeck, Nerva, Norway, Poland, Pomerland, Portugal, Prussia, Quinsbrough, Revel, Riga, Russia, Spain, Stade, Stratten, Swedeland, *&c.*

E. Are you never afraid of glutting the Markets?

D. *No more than we are that People will leave eating, great part of the trading World being yet unserved, which is the Reason we yearly so much encrease the Number of our Doggers.*

E. What Returns are made for your Fish?

D. *Allum, Armour, Baratees, and other* Frankfort *Commodities, Brandy, Bullion, Clapboard, Coin, Copper, Corn, Currants, and other* Grocery *Wares, Damasks, Dealboards, Dollars, Flax, Fruit, Furrs, Fustians, Glass, Hemp, Honey, Hulsop, Iron, Lace, Linnen, Millstones*

tones, Oyl, Pitch, Plate, Potaſh, Prunes, Raſhes, Roſin, Sarſenets, Sattins, Silks, Skins, Steel, Tapſtry, Tar, Timber, Velvets, Wainſcots, Wax, Wines, and other things in abundance; the exporting of which Commodities again to other Countries, gives our Ships full Employment, ſo that they need not go in Ballaſt to ſeek Freight, but by the Profit of outward bound Voyages, are enabled to ſerve Foreigners ſo cheap, as to render us the common Carriers of the World, conſequently Maſters of the moſt certain Profit in Trade; for when Ships arrive ſafe in Harbour, tho' Merchants happen to loſe by their Goods, Owners and Seamen are paid Freight and Wages.

Beſides by continual Bartering of ſuch Exports, Holland *is rendered the mighty Storehouſe, and Empory of all Foreign Products and Manufactures, from whoſe infinite Miſcellany of Goods its Inhabitants are compleatly furniſhed with ſuch ſortable Wares, as enables them to trade from Port to Port without danger of glutting Markets.*

And thus as our Fiſhery hath encreaſed our Trade and Navigation, conſtant Imployment hath ſtill made Foreigners flock to us in ſuch Numbers, that out of our Multitudes, ſupplying (from time to time) the

loſs

loss of so many Lives as the Change of Climates, Successes against the Portugese, *and Victories against the* Indians *have cost us; we have forced Treaties of Commerce, exclusive to all other Nations: Built Forts upon Straits and Passes that command the Entrances into Places of great Traffick; monopolized all the Spice Trade, and mightily advanced towards Engrossing the whole Commerce of the* East Indies.

E. Well may you boast, that *Amsterdam* is Founded upon Herring Bones; and no wonder that notwithstanding your so frequent and chargeable Wars ever since your Revolt from *Spain*, there is hardly a Beggar in your Streets.

But if in *Holland*, which contains not above Five millions of Acres, its Bogs and Sandy-downs excluded.

Holland, where you have no Minerals, and where it is in vain to dig for any thing but Turf and Clay.

Holland, where you have no Tree but what you planted, nor Stone but what you brought thither.

Holland, so much lower than the Ebbings of the Tides and Rivers, that at vast Expence you are obliged with Mills to drain the very Floods occasioned by Rain.

Holland,

Holland, where notwithstanding your ontinual Charge (as was said) in repair- ng Banks and Dykes; frequent Inunda- ions destroy Man and Beast for several Miles together, and then vast Sums (and whole Years) are spent e're the Land can e regained.

Holland, where the *East* Winds com- ng to you o're a mighty length of dry Continent, extream Cold, and long Win- ers, put you to the expence of much ire, Candles, Food and Rayment; and o great charge and pains in housing and oddering your Cattle, all which time hey (living on dry Food) yield little Milk.

Holland, so exposed to bleak Winds, that blast the Blossoms of its Trees, and Storms that shatter off e're ripe their Fruit.

Holland, where that little Arrable Land you have, lying generally on Sand or light Bottoms, requires much Soil, and where Seed-time is so short, that un- less it be exactly nicked, no Profit can be reaped; for when the Seed rots in the Ground (as by great Rains it frequently happeneth,) the Season is generally past before it can be Sown again.

Holland,

Holland, whose whole Product is scarc sufficient to serve (*t*) one Eighth part o its Inhabitants, consequently the rest ar obliged to purchase the so necessary Com modities, Food and Rayment, of Neigh bouring Countries at the Rates they ca get them.

Holland, whose Territories extending upon powerful Neighbours, to defend it Frontiers, and draw out a War in lengt by Sieges, in order to determine it, b force of Money rather than of Arms; yo are obliged to be at vast Expence i Fortifications and Standing Troops, t defend them even in the time of the pro foundest Peace, for Instance *Anno* 1670 After all Reforms, you had Ten Regi ments of Horse and Nineteen of Foot making together Twenty six thou sand Two hundred Men, the constan Charge of which Forces was 556281 *l* Sterling *per Annum*.

I say, if in *Holland*, naturally loaded with these Disadvantages and Misfor tunes, and all their ill Consequences

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(t) Pol. Gron & Maxims van Holl. *Page* 44.

not-

notwithstanding you are (u) *Bridled with hard Laws, terrified with severe Executions, environed with Foreign Forces, and oppressed with the most cruel Hardships, and variety of Taxes that were ever known under any Government.* Your People are become so numerous and wealthy, by Fishing upon our *Northern* Coasts.

Did we in *England* diligently apply our Selves to the Fishing Trade, what a continual Sea-Harvest might we reap, whose Coasts so abound with Cod, Hake, Conger, Whitings, Scate, Sprats, Soals, Oysters, Salmon, Pilchards, Turbets, Thornbacks, Mackerel, Herrings, or Ling, all the Year long.

D. *Why, e'en just such a Sea-Harvest as the* Hamburgers *did (who after five or six Years Trial to imitate us in the Herring-Fishery) found to their Cost we still out-did them, and so we shall you.*

E. The Reason why you out-did the *Hamburghers*, was, because they were yearly Frozen up (w) somewhat longer than you, but seeing by that Start you could out-strip them, surely we need not

(u) *Sir* William Temple's *Observation on the United Provinces,* (w) *Lex. Mercator. Fol.* 171.

fear the Goal; who (beſides what has been ſaid,) have in Fiſhing many more Advantages of you, than ever you had of the *Hamburgers*.

D. *The generality of your Countrymen are of another Opinion.*

E. I am not Ignorant what Induſtry has been uſed to poyſon my Countrymen with an Opinion, that only *Dutch-men* can thrive by Fiſhing: But upon examination, it will appear,

The *Dutch* have above an Hundred Leagues to Sail before they come to the *Herring Fiſhery*, which is only in the *Britiſh-Seas*, and when there, muſt lie at the mercy of the Winds for want of a Port to Friend, and in caſe of Unloading, have as far back again; which takes up a great deal of Time, hinders Buſineſs, and endangers the loſs of their Markets: Whereas, in *England* we have the Fiſh upon our own Coaſts, ſo near our Shoars, that in caſe of Storms, Unloading, taking in of Proviſions, or the like, it is but four or five Hours work (commonly not ſo much) to recover an Harbour, and without loſs of time put to Sea again; the work of Unloading, Repacking, and ſending our Fiſh to Market, going on in all Weathers.

D. *And*

D. *And have not we Dogger-Boats to take off our Fish at Sea, and refurnish the Fishermen with Cask, and other Necessaries.*

E. Yes, *Sir*, and you have the charge and risque of those Dogger Boats too (both which the *English* save,) after all, if it happens to be a Rowling Sea, you cannot work, but must lie by and wait for a Calm.

D. *What other Advantages can you boast?*

E. England, hath many convenient Tide-haven-ports, as at *Hull*, *Harwich*, and Holy Island to the *Northward*, and *Dover*, *Rye*, *Portsmouth*, *Southampton*, *Cowes*, *Weymouth*, *Dartmouth*, *Catwater*, *Hamose*, *Fowey*, *Falmouth*, *Hilford*, *Scilly*, and *Milford*, *Westward*, where at low Water all of them are small Chingle or Hard Sand; so that our Vessels may easily haul a shore, and Wash and Tallow at Pleasure; nor are Creeks and commodious Places wanting in *England* to lodge our Busses and Doggers safe when not employed, so as to prevent wear of Cables, charge of Watching, danger of Fire, *&c.*

D. *What else?*

E. The Shores of *England* are bold, its Coasts high-land, easily discovered, several of our Cape-lands opposite to

France and *Holland*, make *Eddy-Bayes*, whose depth of Water is mean, as six, eight, ten, or twelve Fathom, the Tides (on our Coasts) are small Anchor hold, generally stiff Clay, Chalk or hard Gravel, so that we need not dread Winter Storms, besides the Advantage we have of lying in a moderate Climate, and in the very Center of the Trade of *Europe*, affords us opportunity of sending to Forreign Parts, from divers of our Ports, at all Seasons of the Year: Whereas, the Coasts of *Holland* are extreamly Low, subject to be Hazy and Foggy, have many Shoals and Sands, some of which lie so far off at Sea, that frequently Ships are Stranded before they see Land; its Ports are bad, and often choaked up with Quick-sands; its Havens yearly frozen up two or three Months together: And the *North-west* Wind (usually blowing the greatest part of the Year) make *Holland* a Lee, and *England* a Weather shore, so that (oft-times) whil'st you are Wind-bound or Frozen up at home, we can supply the Markets abroad.

Besides, wanting Wood at reasonable Rates, you cannot share with us in the Red-herring Trade.

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As for Pilchards, they cannot be well cured, unless brought fresh on Shore, and being taken on our Coasts, will be Stale e're they can be carried to Your's.

Not to mention our Rich New *England-Fishery*, our *Western* Ports are incomparably scituated for the *Newfound-Land Fishery*, and the Country it self belonging to the Crown of *England*, you can have no footing there.

Near the Pile of *Foudray* in *Lancashire*, and in several other Places along the Shores of *Wales*, we can Fish even without the Charge of Doggers, for by only setting Nets on the Sands at low Water, great quantities of Herrings are taken next Tide of Ebb.

D. *Those Herrings on the Coasts of* Lancashire (*coming newly out of the Ocean*) *are so fat they will not take Salt kindly, consequently are apt to Reast.*

E. We now find by Experience, that fat Herrings being pressed and cured like Pilchards, take Salt kindly, and yield store of Oyl, to the great Encouragement of our Ship-wrights, Curriers, Soap-boylers, *&c.*

D. *How chance this Method was not found out sooner?*

Dies Diem docet; thoſe noble Salt Rocks in *Cheſhire*, (ſufficient to ſupply all *Europe*) have not been many Years diſcovered.

Beſides, of a Coar abounding in *Shropſhire*, much Pitch is now made of ſo Excellent a Nature, Heat only cauſeth it to penetrate deeper into Plank, and Cold cannot make it crackle off; both which are Advantages *Holland* can't pretend to.

D. *What more*?

E. The Coaſts of *Wales* abound with Aſh; which as far excels other Wood for drying Herrings, as its Bark doth all others for tanning Nets: Nor do we in *England* (as you) want Willow-hoops from *Hamburgh*.

D. *Notwithſtanding all the Advantages you ſpeak of, your Chief Fiſhing Towns*, Yarmouth *and* Layſtoffe, *are beholding either to us at* Enckhuijſen, *or the* French *at* Diep, *for ſelling them Nets*?

E. Before the late War, they uſed to buy Saif-Cloath of you too, but that now made at *Fulham*, &c. is brought to equal Perfection with your beſt Hollands-Duck; and as for Nets, the Towns you mention, have theſe ſeven Years laſt paſt made moſt they uſed; and who knows, but that

our

our Artisans (universally allowed the best upon Earth for Improvements) may in a little time as much excel you in these Things, as they out-do the *Germans* in fine Steel-works; which though they first Invented, yet we now make and sell to them.

But seeing you talk of being beholden: I think you are beholden to us, for selling you our Thames Lamprons wherewith you bait for *North* Sea Cod, else you might go..... whistle for 'em.

D. *Have you any more Advantages of us?*

E. Upon Exporting our Fish, we have the Benefit of a considerable Draw-back upon Salt.

D. *If that's all, rather than suffer that Tide of Wealth that flows in our* Fishery *to be Diverted to another Channel; no doubt but our* States *will allow the* Dutch *the like Encouragement. But now you have told me all your Advantages, I hope.*

E. Excuse me, *Sir*, *England* affords Timber, Iron and Hemp; whereas you are forced to purchase those Commodities in Foreign Countries.

D. Nevertheless, we have all Naval Stores in Barter for Herrings, which costs us little but the trouble of hawling up out of

the Sea, which being considered, and how much the catching such Herrings (by employing and encreasing our Ships and Marriners, adds to the Wealth and Strength of our Country,) it conduceth far more to our Advantage, than if Holland *had Naval Stores of its own Product: Whereas, to purchase* East *Country Wares, the* English *are yearly forced to export much Coin, to the great exhausting of their Treasure.*

E. We do not (as you) depend solely upon the *East* Country for Naval Store; no, in case of Exaction or Rupture, we can be sufficiently supplied from our *American* Plantations.

But if a *Fishery* be Established in *England*, what should hinder us from having Naval Stores in Exchange for Herrings, as well as you?

D. *Your White Herrings are not so bright and good as ours.*

E. Whilst your Clapboard is floating from *Germany*, the *Rhine* draws out its Sap, and if we also soak the Corrosive Sap out of our Clapboard, which now discolours and preys upon our Fish, and like you, gip and salt the Herrings as soon as taken, they'll be every whit as bright, and good as Yours.

D. *We*

D. *We build Cheaper in* Holland *than you do in* England.

E. Our Ships are much Stronger, and abler to brook the Seas, and will laſt twice as long.

D. *Our Veſſels Sail with fewer Hands.*

E. We have no reaſon to envy you that happineſs, whilſt (in proportion to your Tunnage and Number of Marriners) you yearly loſe (by undermanning) far more Ships and Mens Lives than we, for which Reaſon, in above three Parts of the World, our Ships yield better Freight; where then lies the Odds? Which were there any, could be only in Merchant-men, to carry our Fiſh to Market: Doggers and Fiſher Boats carry more Men to catch Fiſh than are needful to Sail them: And in the *Greenland* Trade, each Ship to Man their Shallops, when a Fiſhing, muſt have Three times the Crew that can Navigate her. Were not this true, ſince in building *Engliſh* Shipwrights know no Maſters, ſurely we might eaſily cauſe our Ships to be built and manned after your Mode.

But ſuppoſing your Aſſertion true, if all Ships that carry Corn to *Venice*, are permitted to Load Currans at *Zant*: ſo

all Bottoms which Exported *Engliſh* caught Fiſh, might be allowed to return with a Loading of Naval Stores, without paying Alians Duty: That would ſet us upon even Ground with you, as to the Buſineſs of our *Fiſhery*.

D. *Two thouſand Five hundred Perſons are hardly able in a whole Year, to make a Fleet of Nets for Five hundred Doggers: Now* England's *many waſts and unimproved Lands, ſhews it's not half peopled, and of thoſe in it,*

Conſider,

How many Women and Children do juſt nothing, but ſpend what others get.

How many are meer Voluptuaries, and, as it were, Gameſters by Trade.

How many live by puzling poor People with unintelligible Notions.

How many, by perſwadiug credulous, delicate and litigious Perſons, that their Bodies or Eſtates are out of Tune or in Danger.

How many by Trades of meer Pleaſure or Ornament.

How many by Myſteries of Vice and Sin, or in a lazy way of Attendance upon others, where then can you hope to find Hands to carry on your Fiſhery.

E. The Numbers of the Idle Persons you mention, denote rather want of Business than want of People: However, a full Employment of the Hands we have, is certainly the best way to get more; for such as our Employment is for People, so many will our People be.

The far greatest Part of *England*'s Droans, are neither so Young, nor yet so Old or Decrepit, but that they may either turn Wheels, spin Twine, braid or beet Nets, cut Corks, cast Leads, make Herring Spits, Norsels, Swills or Baskets, Gip, Spit, Salt, Hang or Pack Herrings, or at least tend Fires to smoak or dry them, pick Oakum, or the like; and as a constant Employmeht of our Poor, will be a continual Ease and Comfort to them, by amusing and diverting them from thinking of their Poverty or other Misery; so will it alleviate the Nations Burthen, and in some measure be a Re-peopling of us too, by adding so many lost Hands to the Service of the Publick.

In *England*, we have Numbers of *French* Protestants, who fled from *Diep* and the Coasts of *Normandy*, &c. (bred to the Business of the *Fishery* from their Cradles)

Cradles) that (if ſettled in our decayed Fiſhing Towns) would as certainly make them Flouriſh as the Walloon and Burgundean Refugees, planted by Queen *Elizabeth* (*w*) at *Norwich*, *Canterbury* and *Colcheſter*, raiſed them (then ſo poor) Cities, to ſuch great Trade, Riches and Plenty.

In *England*, we have no Sumptuary Laws: So that Mercers not foreknowing Faſhions, dare not lay out their Stocks till the Spring; at which time their ſudden great Demands render Journey Men ſcarce, and oblige Weavers to draw in Numbers of Apprentices, who in few Months ſupply the Trade of the Nation; when being turned off, many (like the Inhabitants of the *Bath*, *Epſom*, *Tunbridge*, &c. who live by exacting on Strangers in Summer,) are ready to Starve for want of Employment before the next Spring.

Were a National *Fiſhery* Eſtabliſhed in *England*, our Gentry, by cauſing their Footmen and Servants to riſe early, and employ their idle Hours in making Nets, might not *only* reap the *profit* of their *work*, but by accuſtoming them to Buſineſs in

(*w*) 1568.

their

their Youths, beget in them ſuch induſtrious Diſpoſitions, as would prevent (what now too frequently happens) their becoming Beggars, or worſe in Old Age.

The time of Labouring and induſtrious People well Employ'd, is the beſt Commodity of any Country; and were a *Fiſhery* Eſtabliſhed in *England*, how Advantagious would it be to the Publick: When all our disbanded Soldiers, poor Priſoners, Widows and Orphans, all poor Tradeſmen, Artificers and Labourers, their Wives, Children and Servants, each vacant Interval may be getting a Penny by braiding and beeting of Nets, *&c.*

D. *But ſtill you want Marriners; whereas Sailors in* Holland, *are as Common as Beggars in* England.

E. 'Tis own'd, our want of Marriners enough at once to Man our Navy, and Collery, coſt *London*, and the Dependences upon the River of *Thames* (during the late War) above Seaven hundred thouſand Pounds, only in the Price of Coals; by which may be gueſſed, how Detrimental it was to the Trade of our Nation in General.

But

But the more we want Mariners, the greater reaſon we have to eſtabliſh a *Fiſhery*, which (the *Preface* ſhows) is the beſt way to encreaſe their number.

The many Thouſands, *Engliſh*, *Scotch*, and *Iriſh* Mariners, who now yearly fiſh for you, would hardly ſeek Work abroad, if a *Fiſhery* afforded 'em full Employment at home, and 'tis odds, but a finer Country, cheaper and better Food and Raiment, wholeſomer Air, eaſier Rents and Taxes, will tempt many of your Country Men to croſs the Herring Pond.

Since the Peace is concluded, and our great Ships laid up, we have Mariners enough to begin a *Fiſhery*; and as that goes forwards, it will proportionably encreaſe their numbers.

D. *Fiſhing is a Work for which the* Engliſh *are unfit, and requires ſuch skilful, induſtrious and robuſt Seamen, as no Country breeds but* Holland.

E. Your learned *Keckerman* ſays, *Omnibus Hodiè Gentibus, Navigandi, induſtriâ & peritiâ Superiores eſſe Anglos.*

'Tis certain, our Mariners do as cheerfully undergo hardſhips, and are as bold in danger as any; and for hard Labour, the

the working of a Mine is incomparably harder than that of a Ship. No Country but Great *Britain* can boaſt, that after twelve hours hard Work, its Natives will (in the Evening) go to Foot-ball, Stool-ball, Cricket, Priſon-baſe, Wreſtling, Cudgel-playing, or ſome ſuch vehement Exerciſe for their Recreations: And as for their Genius, it's remarkable, that ſuch Lads and Country Fellows, at *Yarmouth*, *Layſtoffe*, &c. are once hired into the Fiſhing Trade, and come to feed on the Fiſh they catch, it improves them at ſuch a rate, that of pitiful Weaklings at Land, they become healthful, ſtout and hardy Perſons, and upon trial, find it ſo much to their liking, that not one in twenty, but take to the Sea for good and all.

D. Engliſh *Men are dainty chapt, and when a Fiſhing, cannot fare like ours.*

E. It is certain, they need not for Meat and Drink in *Ireland*; and in many Parts of *England*, are above as cheap again as in *Holland*, which produceth no other Proviſions (for Traffick) than Butter and Cheeſe; and even thoſe are cheaper with us than with you: Beſides, 'tis obſerved, that whatever *Dutch* Fiſher-

men

men ſave by eating of Grout, they drink more than ours in Brandy.

D. *The Act of the* 18 Car. 2. *prohibits the Importation of* Iriſh *Cattle, to keep up Rents: Now catching much Fiſh (by hindering the Conſumption of Fleſh) will make Lands fall.*

E. Doubtleſs, plenty of Food is a great Bleſſing, and no good *Engliſh*-Man will deſire to grow rich by a Famine.

'Tis generally the landed Men bear the Burthen of the Poor; without finding them Work, they muſt maintain them Idle: Where the Poor's Rates are High, Lands will fall, and Rents be ill paid.

The cheaper Proviſions are, the leſs Taxes will ſerve in time of War; Houſekeeping will be leſs chargeable, and a leſs Rate maintain our Poor: But where Proviſions are dear, Work and Wages will riſe in proportion, to the great detriment of Husbandry, and ſtop to Improvements, which *(pro tanto)* will fall Rents; and raiſe all Manufactures, yet leſſen their Conſumption, both at home and abroad, and neceſſitate Maſters, for want of Vent (by turning off their Journey

ney Men) to make whole Families of Beggars at once.

Catching much Fiſh, will, morally ſpeaking, render *England* leſs ſubject to a Famine; which generally exhauſteth more of our Wealth in one Year, than War doth in two.

Catching much Fiſh, will give Work to many Thouſands, of both Sexes, that now are cloathed in Rags, and (through Poverty) live only on Bread, Water-Pulſe, Roots, and the like; who, when they come to have the Rewards of their Labours in their Hands, will incourage the Woollen Manufacture, by buying New Cloaths: And our Farmers by a greater Conſumption of the Product of the Earth, by drinking Strong-beer, will advance the King's Exciſe, by increaſing the number of Tenants, raiſe our Rents, eaſe our Poor's Rates and Taxes, by helping to pay them.

Catching much Fiſh, will occaſion the expence of much Butter, and make our Farmers run much upon Daries: The Buſineſs whereof, though performed by the fair Sex, turns to as good Account, as the hardeſt Labour the Husbandman can imploy his Time in: Put caſe the

Mar-

Market ſhould be over-ſtock'd at Home, *Engliſh* Butter is too good a Commodity in *Flanders*, *France*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, &c. ever to want Vent abroad.

The cheaper our Proviſions are, the more Navigation will be encouraged; more Foreign Ships will victual with us; fewer of ours in *Ireland*; and the more Beef, Pork, *&c.* ſhall we Export to *Barbadoes*, *Jamaica*, and the reſt of our Plantations: So, that ſuppoſing Meat ſhould not always remain at a very exceſſive Rate, yet, where a greater Conſumption cauſeth a quick Market, though at a midling Price; if the Proverb be true, *Light Gains will make a heavy Purſe.*

It is cheap Proviſions that enables the *Indians* to ſupplant the *Europeans* in their Manufactures: And ſhould a *Fiſhery* make Proviſions in *England*, but one Tenth part cheaper, Wages would fall in proportion, and our Artiſts grow never the poorer; yet our Merchants be enabled (by under-ſelling) to beat all the reſt of *Europe* out of the Woollen Trade, and then our Farmers would gain far more by the riſe of the *Fleece*, than they'd loſe by the fall of the *Fleſh.*

After

Beſides, the Profit of our Lands, doth not wholly ariſe from Breeding, abate in Graſing, and plow up more Paſture, and *Fleſh* will hold its price.

D. *Corn is ſo cheap in* England, *your Farmers are often Broke by it; what then could you do with greater Quantities?*

E. The Reaſon why our Farmers ſometimes want Vent for their Grain, is, becauſe we have not always Store, and therefore Merchants make no Proviſion for the Trade: But if we yearly ſow ſuch Quantities of Corn beyond the expence of the Nation, as Merchants may be no leſs certain of a conſtant ſupply here, than they are in the *Sound* (where the Country depends as much upon their Harveſt, as *France* does on its Vintages) Plenty will ſoon create a Trade, and the Advantage of *England*'s lying ſo much nearer than *Dantzig*, to the Places where Foreign Corn is Exported; together with the allowance granted by the 25 *Car.* 2. upon the Exporting thereof, will ſufficiently encourage Merchants to deal therein.

Moſt of our Ships are now ſent light to *Bilboa* and *Lisbon:* (now what loads our Ships, helps our Navigation) And

our

our Exports to *Lisbon*, not anſwering our Imports from thence: The more we ſend them in Corn, the leſs their Wines will coſt the Nation in ready Money, or Bills of Exchange, which is all one.

Gold and Silver Mines, *England* hath none, and in time of Peace no way to get Bullion, but by Foreign Traffick; to which, nothing can more conduce than cheap Fiſhing, and cheap Working and Manufacturing the Commodities, which compoſe the Exports of our Kingdom; and hat is, not to be effected, except Labour be cheap, which it can never be, where Proviſions are dear: But the cheaper our Proviſions are, the cheaper our Exports may be afforded; conſequently the more Vent we ſhall have for them, and much Vent will cauſe many Workmen; and when the Wheel is ſet a going, Trade begets Trade, as Fire begets Fire; and the more Trade encreaſeth, the more will Induſtrious People, from all Parts flock to us, and tenant our Houſes, encloſe our Waſts, improve our Lands, encreaſe our Manufactures, and enlarge our Products, far beyond the whole Expence of our Nation, and thereby, in proportion, add to its Wealth and Treaſure:

for

for Merchants Exporting the Surplus, will in Returns bring back Gold, Silver, and other valuable Commodities, which (in *England* that hath Property) by Succeſſion of Contracts, will diffuſe among its Inhabitants; and thus as the number of Perſons, made rich by their Labour and Induſtry, encreaſe, and the choice of Tenants and Chapmen are enlarged, a kind of Competition amongſt them, muſt, and will make Rents and Lands advance in proportion: Witneſs *Holland*, and ſuch Lands, as lye near great and populous Corporations. So true it is, that *Trade and Lands are Twins, that always wax and wain together.*

D. *Notwithſtanding, what hath been ſaid, I adviſe all your Country Men, not to be concerned in a* Fiſhery; *for, in* Holland *we have Money at Three, whereas the Trade of* England *is burthened with Six* per Cent. *Intereſt; conſequently you can never keep pace with us.*

E. Why do you not (for the ſame reaſon) adviſe us to forbear Trading to *Eaſt-India*, *Turkey*, *Spain*, *France*, *Italy*, *Portugal*, &c. nay, to quit all Navigation, and abandon our ſelves to the next Comers? Was it not the Fiſhing Trade gave

gave Rise to all your Wealth; and as Money grew plentiful in *Holland*, did not Lands rise gradually to near Forty Years purchase, and Interest fall by degrees from Eight to Three *per Cent?* Why then may not we expect, that a *Fishery* will do the like in *England*; and be a means to regain our *Muscovy*, *Greenland*, *Norway*, and *East* Country Trades? For, still as Trade by encreasing of Wealth, causeth an abatement of Interest, abatement of Interest will yet cause a further encrease of Trade.

D. *The* Dutch *are already settled in the Fishing Trade.*

E. Stately *Genoa*, that once employed Forty thousand Hands in the Silken Manufacture, declines now as fast, as her formerly neglected Neighbour *Leghorn* riseth: And if the *French* King continues to court all the World with popular Immunities, *Leghorn* (in time) must give place to her Sister *Marseilles.*

The King of *Portugal* having discovered the Passage to the *East Indies* (*x*), by the *Cape* of *Good Hope*, and so diverted the Course of Trade driven by the *Vene-*

(*x*) *Anno* 1500.

tians

from *Alexandria*, and the *Red Sea*, to his Port of *Lisbon*; kept Factors at *Antwerp*, to Vend there his *Indian* Commodities; which drew several Merchants from divers Parts to reside there, and made that pleasant seated City the Packhouse of *Europe*: But when the *Dutch* (*y*) also found the way to the *Indies*, and began to rival *Portugal* in that Trade, Merchants resolving not to lose the advantage of their Skill in *Indian* Commodities, by removing to *Amsterdam*, improved their own Estates, but ruin'd *Antwerp*.

Trade, like the Sea, its Element often ebbs and flows from one place to another: Not many Years since, we Imported Silk Stockings from the *Levant*; but now the Tide is turn'd, and we send them thither.

D. *It's too great an Undertaking.*

E. The *Flemings* were long settled in the Manufacturing of our Wooll; yet (in *Edward* the III. time) when the *English* set about it themselves, in good earnest, they effectually fixed that Rich Staple in *England*. The *Dutch* likewise for many

(*y*) *Anno* 1602.

years

Years after, had the Dreſſing and Dying of our Woollen Manufactories; but when we undertook the Work, they were ſoon deprived of that Advantage, which ſo great Benefits our Country would have yet wanted, had all Men thought them too big to be accompliſhed.

D. *Projects in* England, *have of late proved very unſucceſsful.*

E. What! though ſome Men have run upon wild Notions, and catching at Shadows loſt their Subſtance, that's no Objection againſt our *Fiſhery*, which is a certainty; for the Sea yields her Fiſh, as well as the Earth her Fruit in due ſeaſon: And *Neptune* hath been far more bountiful to you than *Ceres.*

D. *Have you drawn up a Method for employing the Poor of* England *in a National* Fiſhery?

E. I have attempted it, but find the well-contriving the Buſineſs, requires far better Heads than mine.

D. *However let's ſee your* ESSAY.

E. Here it is, Sir.

THE

THE PROPOSAL.

1. THAT towards raiſing a Joint-ſtock for Employing the Poor in a *National Fiſhery*, a Million be Subſcribed.

2. That the Money Subſcribed be called Stock, and be Aſſignable.

3. That every Subſcriber, at the time of ſuch their Subſcriptions, pay to ..... One full fourth Part of his, her, or their reſpective Subſcriptions; and in Default of ſuch Payment, every Subſcription to be utterly Void and Null.

4. That the reſidue of the ſaid Subſcriptions, be paid by ſuch Proportions, and at ſuch Days and Times, as by a General Court of the ſaid Subſcribers, ſhall from time to time be appointed: And in Default of ſuch Payment, that then the fourth Part firſt paid, as aforeſaid, be forfeited to the Uſe of the Corporation, herein after mentioned, their Succeſſors and Aſſigns.

5. That the Subſcribers be Incorporated by *Act* of *Parliament* (by the Name of the Corporation, for employing the Poor of *England* in a *National Fiſhery*) with perpetual Succeſſion.

6. That at a General Court to be held for the ſaid Corporation, Thirty be choſen out of the ſaid Subſcribers, by plurality of Votes, and preſented to the Parliament.

7. That out of the ſaid Thirty, Ten be nominated Fathers of the Poor, and Directors of the National Fiſhery by both Houſes of Parliament, approved by His Majeſty, and accountable to them for their Truſt.

8. That in caſe of Vacancy (by the Death, or Miſdemeanor) of any one of the ſaid Fathers of the Poor (during Seſſions of Parliament,) the ſaid Corporation to preſent Three, out of which His Majeſty and Parliament to nominate One, as before, and ſo *toties quoties*. But in caſe the Parliament ſhall not then be ſitting, that ſuch Vacancies be filled up by the Majority of the Surviving Fathers until next Seſſions of Parliament; and then the Corporation to preſent, and the *King* and *Parliament* to approve as before.

9. That

9. That ſuch Fathers be Impowered to Conſtitute under the Seal of the ſaid Corporation, a ſufficient Number of Deputies in each County in *England*; and that ſuch Deputies be, and be called Stewards of the Poor.

10. That the ſaid Fathers and ſuch Stewards of the Poor, be exempted from all Pariſh Offices.

11. That the ſaid Fathers, and ſuch their Stewards be veſted with all Authority now in Juſtices of the Peace; and that all Pariſh Officers be ſubordinate and accountable to the ſaid (Fathers, and ſuch their Stewards,) in all things (only) relating to Employing the Poor.

12. That the ſaid Fathers and Stewards have Freedom to ſet the Poor on Work, about ſuch of the ſaid Trades relating to the *Fiſhery* as they ſhall think fit, with a *non obſtante* to all Patents that have been, or ſhall be granted.

13. That to prevent People from being oppreſt, and ground to Poverty by Pawnbroakers, that ſcrew out of them 40 or 50 *per Cent*; the ſaid Fathers may be allowed to erect Lumber-Offices in every City and Town in *England* excluſive of all o-

thers, upon Condition they take not above..... *per Cent. per Annum.*

14. That in all Churches (as in *Holland*) at every Solemn Assembly, the Church-Wardens with a long Staff and Bag, during the Sermon, receive the Charitable Benevolence of the whole Congregation, and pay the same to the said Fathers, who shall cause a true Account to be kept thereof, and apply it to the Erecting Hospitals in *London* and other Great Cities, wherein Poor Women near the time of their Travel, may be received and carefully Delivered, and remain till they are in a condition to return Home, and follow their Work: And if at the Years end, any *Overplus* of such Collections remain, that the same be Yearly applyed for *Marrying* poor *Maids.*

15. That until the Business of the *Fishery* be sufficient alone to give Employment to all our Poor, (or at least during Ten Years next after the Establishing a *National Fishery,*) the said Fathers and Stewards of the Poor, may be Impowered to Imploy such of them as they shall think fit, in erecting Free-Schools, Hospitals, Work-houses, and Ware-houses; for the Corporation, in making Enclosures,

ſures, in reparing Sea Banks, draining Fens, cleanſing and deepning Rivers and Havens, in building and repairing Churches, Bridges and Cauſeways, in mending Roads, in planting Oaks near Navigable Rivers, and Fruit Trees in Inland Countries, alſo in cleanſing of Streets, Common-ſhores, and the like.

16. That the ſaid Fathers of the Poor, be Impowered to ſend ſuch Refractory Poor as they ſhall think fit, to ſerve in His Majeſties Plantations, taking Security for their comfortable Maintenance during .... years Service, and for their Freedom afterwards.

17. That all the Poor's Rates in *England* be Collected, as formerly by the Church-Wardens of each Pariſh, and by them quarterly paid into the Treaſury of the ſaid Corporation, as a Recompence for their providing for the Poor, and freeing the Nation from Beggars.

18. That the Million Subſcribed, be always kept intire, as a Security to Indemnify the Nation againſt the Charge of the Poor, and the Income and Profits be only divided amongſt the Subſcribers.

19. That the Treaſure of the ſaid Corporation be accounted as Sacred, and that

it be Felony to imbezel, lend, convert, or apply the ſame to any other Uſe, than maintaining the Poor, or carrying on the Buſineſs of the *Fiſhery*.

20. That His Majeſty be Addreſſed, to grant Leaſes to ſuch *National Fiſhery*, of the Waſts and Direlict Lands, to be by them uſed in Building Ware-houſes, Curing Fiſh, Beeting, Corking, Leading, and Drying Nets, Spining Twine, and the like.

21. That the ſaid Fathers may buy up, when Cheap, a certain Quantity of Corn, Coals, *&c.* yearly, and lodge the ſame in *Granaries* & *Wharfs*, for the Uſe of their Poor, but not make Merchandize of them, or ſell them again in *England*.

22. That the Stock in the ſaid *Fiſhery* be not chargeable with any Rates, Duties, or Impoſitions whatſoever.

23. That Debts due to the *Fiſhery*, for Goods by them, *bona fide* ſold and delivered, take Preference of all others, except thoſe due to the *King*.

24. That all Perſons may Fiſh as formerly, and ſell what they catch in *England*, but none Export any Fiſh but the *National Fiſhery* without paying them .. .... *per Cent.*

25. That

25. That the ſaid Fathers and Stewards, be Impowered to bind ſuch ſingle Perſons to the Company, as the Church-Wardens and Overſeers of the Poor by the Statutes of 43 *Eliz.* 2. 1 *Jac.* 25. 21 *Jac.* 28. and the 3 *Car.* 4. are Impowered to put out Apprentices, the Boys to Serve till Twenty four, and the Girls till Twenty one Years of Age; at one of the two and thirty Trades more immediately relating to the *Fiſhery.*

The Companies Intereſt will oblige them to Provide the beſt and ſobereſt Maſters.

How to prevent their Deſertion can be ſhown beyond Objection.

Now ſuch Apprentices being in the Fiſhing Seaſon employ'd at *Sea*, and at other Times in that Trade relating to the *Fiſhery* to which they were Bound, when their Time is out, will be able to get their Livelyhoods either at Sea or Land; and if to render them more capable of ſerving their Country, the ſaid Fathers or Stewards (at Four a Clock each *Saturday* in the Afternoon) ſhould cauſe them when (on ſhore) to Muſter and Exerciſe (although only with Staves,) and for Diverſion to play at Cudgels or, Fence,

and

and reward the Conquerer with liberty of wearing a ſmall Ribbon, whoſe diſtinguiſhing Colour of *Red*, *Blew*, &c. ſhould Entitle them to be called *Captains*, *Lieutenants*, &c. by the reſt of their Fellows, till next Weeks trial of Skill: How ſoon would Emulation beget Addreſs? And what a Treaſure and Strength to *England* would ſuch a *Militia* be, always ready for Service both by *Sea* and *Land*, and yet no Charge to the Nation till actually in it.

Nor will ſuch Lads be leſs profitable to the Corporation, for ſuppoſe (as uſual) the charge of *Fiſhing* to conſiſt $\frac{1}{3}$ in the *Dogger* & *Rigging*, $\frac{1}{3}$ in *Victuals*, *Nets*, &c. and $\frac{1}{3}$ in *Seamens-Wages*; and the whole to amount to Nine hundred Pounds.

Admitting our *Craft*, *Rigging* and *Victualing*, as Chargeable as the *Dutch*, and that they amount together to 600 *l.* Then 300 *l.* remains for *Wages*.

Should the Corporation the firſt Year, have but $\frac{1}{3}$ of a *Dogger's-Crew* their own Servants, (bating what is paid more to *Officers* till their own *Apprentices* are fit to Command,) it will ſave them one of the ſaid 300 *l.* and if the next Year the Corporation have the $\frac{1}{2}$ of their *Dog-*

gers-Crew

gers-Crew their Apprentices, it will then ave them 150 *l.* of the ſaid 300 *l.* and thus their Fiſh would ſtand them the firſt Year in about Ten, and the next in near Fifteen *per Cent.* leſs than the *Dutch*, and ſo Proportionable to the Numbers of their Servants, their Profits will encreaſe; till at length, paying little or no *Wages*, they may afford to ſell Fiſh to the *Hollanders* cheaper than they can catch them.

D. *Money is ſcarce in* England.

E. The greater the Dearth, the more Care ſhould be had to Seed the Ground, leaſt the Famine encreaſe: The more our Wealth is Exhauſted, the greater Cauſe have we to lay hold on the *Fiſhery*, which (as hath been ſhown) ſo much Enrich'd *Holland*, and by parity of Reaſon will abundantly add to our Treaſure.

D. *Upon the whole, I confeſs, its poſſible for* England *to out Fiſh us, but then you muſt have nothing to do with Companies, only make it every particular Man's Intereſt, and they'l ſoon make it their Buſineſs.*

E. It's Dangerous taking a Rivals Advice, and well known why *Fiſh* was ſo Cheap this Year in *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy*, and other *Engliſh* Markets; yet ſold ſo well in the *Eaſt* Countries.

Glutting

Glutting Markets may Ruine particu
lar Men, but its far more Difficult to pu
ſuch Tricks upon Companies.

D. *After all, where can you find*
Set of Honeſt Men, to carry on a Nationa
Fiſhery *in* England?

E. In *Amſterdam*, you have you
Church-wardens, Directors of *Bethlem*, o
your Raſp-houſe, of your Spin-houſe, &c
Commiſſioners for your ſmall Differen
ces, and thoſe of your *Levant* Trade, you
Sea Affairs, *&c.* alſo your Vroedſchap
your Schepens, and your Burge-maſters
which are Places of far more Troubl
than Profit, yet (being the uſual ſteps t
Preferment) are generally (*like that o*
Common-Council-Men in London) offici
ated without Reproach. Not for that th
Dutch are honeſter Men than thei
Neighbours: But becauſe ſuch as are foun
tardy in thoſe Employments, are barre
all future hopes of Advancement. An
ſhould our *Parliament* Addreſs his *Maje*
ſty to prefer in the Cuſtom-houſe, Exciſe
&c. ſuch as behaved themſelves well i
the *Fiſhery*, and make breach of Trut
therein, to incapacitate Men from ſervin
the Government in any Employmen
Military, or Civil for . . . . . Yea

(hov

(how ſmall Wages ſoever the Corporation allowed,) the Company would never want honeſt Servants, who, Voluntier like, would vie with each other, who ſhould beſt ſerve their Country by moſt promoting its *Fiſhery*.

D. *An Honeſt Man is a Citizen of the World, Gain equaliſeth all Places to me. And when you ſettle a* Fiſhery *upon better Terms than our's (as my Grandfather left* Antwerp *when its Trade began to decay, and removed to* Amſterdam) *I'le bid adieu to* t' Vaderlandt, *and Remove to* London. *In the Interim, Farewel.*

CONCLUSION.

SEeing in the Peeamble of an *ACT* paſſed in the 14 *Car* 2. 'Tis declared, **That the Publick Honour, Wealth and Safety of this Realm, as well in the Maintenance and Support of Navigation, as in many other Reſpects, doth in an high Degree depend upon the Improvement and Encouragement of the** FISHERY.

And

And seeing the way to all this *Honour*, *Wealth* and *Safety* is so Plain and Easie, that by only a *Frugal* and Industrious management of Affairs (*without quarrelling with our Neighbours*,) we may quickly become *sole* Masters of the *Fishing Trade*.

For *Shame* let not *English-men* longer say, with *Solomon*'s sloathful

Prov. 6. 13. ☞ *There is a* LYON *in the Way.*

CONCLUSION.

FINIS.